



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Manfred Wittenstein
Serial No. : 10/524,722
Filed : February 16, 2005
TC/A.U. : 3616
Confirmation No: 8407
Examiner : D. J. Brown

Docket No. : 05-148
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits the prior art listed hereinbelow, copies enclosed, which prior art was cited in the International Search Report.

- (1) DE Patent No. 30 15 384;
- (2) US Patent No. 4,127,182;
- (3) US Patent No. 5,823,884; and
- (4) DE Patent No. 298 13 512.

A listing on Form PTO-1449 is enclosed along with a copy of the non-U.S. documents.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the

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present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

Respectfully submitted,

Manfred Wittenstein

By

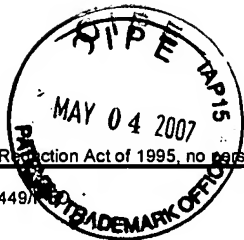
Gregory P. LaPointe
Attorney for Applicants

Tel: (203) 777-6628

Fax: (203) 865-0297

Date: May 1, 2007

I, Rachel Piscitelli, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/524,722
Filing Date	February 16, 2005
First Named Inventor	Manfred Wittenstein
Art Unit	3616
Examiner Name	D. J. Brown
Attorney Docket Number	05-148

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 4,127,182	11-28-1978	Thole	
		US- 5,823,884	10-20-1998	Ager	
		US-			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		DE 30 15 384	10-29-1981	Bauer		
		DE 298 13 512	01-13-2000			

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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